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THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

—OF—

ASHBY WOULD'S.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year 1914.

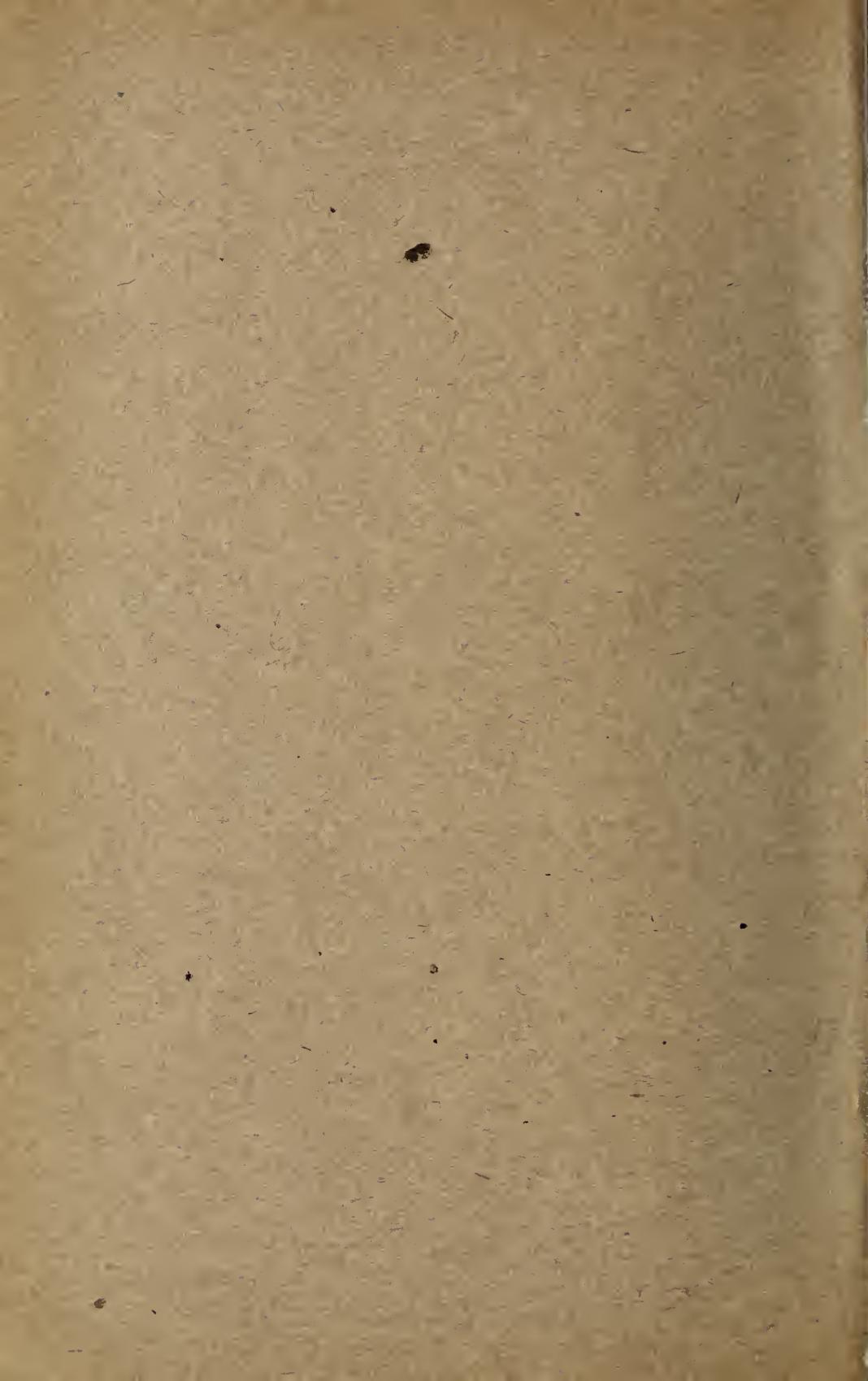
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RODERIC LOGAN, M.R.C.S., ENG.,

Medical Officer of Health.

February 1915.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch.



ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH,

February 1915.

TO THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ASHBY WOULD.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report upon the Sanitary state of your District for the year 1914.

Tables of death, new cases of infectious disease, and Vital Statistics are appended, with tables of Inspector's work during the year.

The Vital Statistics are calculated per 1,000 persons living.

ASHBY WOULD'S URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

1. Elevation of District from 285 to 437 O.D.

GEOLOGY—Coal Measures, Pottery and Brick Clay.

AREA—Land, 1939 acres. Water, 39 acres. Total, 1978 acres.

	Census, 1901.	Census, 1911.	Estimated 1914.
Population ..	2799	2783	2853
Inhabited Houses	529	577	....

New Houses erected during the year—None.

Rateable Value, £16,978. Assessable Value, £13,248.

General District Rate, 2/- in the £.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.	General Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality.
26.63	9.07	53

Epidemic Diseases Death Rate.	Phthisis Death Rate.
0.34	0.68

Occupations.

Coal Mining, Pottery and Agriculture are the chief industries.

Poor Relief.

The amount of out-door Poor Relief granted during 1914 is £242 17s. 0d.

Burton, Derby and Leicester Infirmarys are all supplied with cases from the District.

Water Supply.

The whole of the District is now supplied with water from the Swadlineote and Ashby Waterworks. The Scheme outlined in my last Annual Report has been completed and the necessary connections to houses made early in the year. This is a very great boon to the district, as there is an ample supply for Commercial as well as for Domestic purposes.

Rivers and Streams.

There is no pollution of water-courses of any consequence in the district.

Drainage and Sewage.

The Outfall works at Occupation Road consist of two tanks and two percolating filters (with revolving arm) and one contact bed for storm overflow. This receives the sewage of Albert Village and Occupation Road.

There is a precipitation tank and small filter bed at Swain's Park to deal with the sewage from the few houses at that point.

The Outfall works at Donisthorpe Lane, one precipitation tank and two percolating filters (revolving arm distributors) are now connected up with the sewer from Moira School and Stone Row. They have been enlarged in order to deal with this increased quantity of sewage.

A few houses below Stone Row are below the level of this sewer and still discharge their sewage into a small precipitating tank.

New Row, Newfields, is seweraged to a closed tank in the old clay pits, and Old Row sewage is collected in a closed tank below the gardens, the overflow being irrigated in a long open ditch.

The sewage of Rawdon Terrace is discharged into a small stream, which loses itself in marshy land.

There is a strong likelihood of a large number of houses for working men being erected in the district on the Ashby Road mainly at an early date. Your Council has already taken into consideration the necessary extensions of sewers and sewerage outfall works. At a Special Meeting of the Council the matter was discussed with the expert Engineer and the proposed sites examined I strongly advise the provision of Water Closets in *all* the new houses and the extension of the Outfall works in Donisthorpe lane to meet the extra need for sewage treatment which will thus arise.

Throughout the district the sewage is slop water only.

Closest Accommodation.	Privy Middens.	Pail Closets.	W.Cs.	Slop Water C.
	561	7	13	—

2 houses have been converted from Privy Middens to W.Cs., none from Pail Closets to W.Cs.

4 defective privies have been improved, and none converted to Pail closets.

When the district is mainly supplied from public water mains I hope to see a much larger percentage of water closets instead of privy middens.

The privy midden is the main breeding ground for flies in most Urban districts. The flies not only carry infectious diseases but cause an enormous amount of food poisoning by contaminating milk, butter, etc. (the food principally of the youngest children), and this food poisoning, though it may not amount to epidemics of Diarrhoea with fatal cases, yet causes a large amount of sickness amongst infants and young children, affects their nutrition, weakens them constitutionally and thus renders them the more liable to any and every disease. Flies are a fertile cause of the spread of Consumption.

Scavenging.

The district is entirely scavenged by contractors, working under the Council's supervision by the Sanitary Inspector. Three contractors are employed, but there is no regular rule for the emptying of P.Ms. It is done about three times a year in Albert Village, and about twice a year in Moira, where the P.Ms. are much more capacious. The night-soil is disposed of on the land, and the ashes in a tip. The cost of scavenging the district is £166 10s. 0d.

Sanitary Inspection.

200 Inspections of premises have been made, and 15 defective or insanitary conditions abated. 15 infected houses have been disinfected. There has not been any disinfection of schoolrooms required.

Under the Dairies and Cowsheds Orders, the Regulations have been adopted, and a Veterinary Inspector appointed. There are 10 milksellers registered, and 9 dairymen who make butter only. 40 inspections have been made, two premises required whitewashing, and repairs to one dairy, which have been carried out. One dairy has been closed.

There are three slaughter-houses of which only two are in use.

There are no lodging-houses, under-ground bakehouses or offensive trades in the district.

2 samples of water have been sent for analysis this year. One was passable—one condemned.

Food. Milk Supply.

There are 16 cowkeepers on the Register, and about 80 cows are kept. There are no milksellers who are not cowkeepers. The milk produced is almost entirely consumed in the district and very little is imported into the district. No case of tuberculous udders has been reported to me. The cubic space per cow in the sheds average about 400 cubic feet. This is much too little, 600 being the minimum desirable. 4 inspections have been made and 4 premises required washing, 4 structural improve-

ments and 2 sanitary improvements. 11 of the cowkeepers' premises are supplied from wells and the rest from the mains. 9 of the milksellers are also makers of butter.

Other Foods.

4 inspections of premises have been made. No unsound food has been found. The condition of the bakehouses is satisfactory, also of the slaughter-houses. There are no special arrangements made for the inspection of meat but inspection of the premises is usually undertaken at killing time when the carcases are also inspected. No case of tuberculosis in meat has been found.

Housing
Regulations
1910.

60 houses have been inspected. 44 were found defective, chiefly in minor but important details, leaky roofs owing to a few tiles broken or defective plastering or broken eaves, causing damp in living rooms.

The provision made for storing food in nearly every one of these houses is particularly bad, defective plastering of walls, bad lighting, no means of ventilation whatever, insufficient room, and very few shelves, were noted in nearly every case. No new house should be erected in this district without very careful attention being paid to the provision made for storage of food. Another constant defect is the lack of sufficient closet accommodation which I have previously reported on more than one occasion and the defective condition of present closets, uncovered and defective privy middens and insufficient scavenging.

The Privy Midden is an insanitary arrangement at its best, but when defective and overfilled it is an abominable nuisance and a grave danger to the health of the whole neighbourhood. Insufficient attention has been paid to this matter in the past, and I therefore ask your Council to take measures to enforce during the present year the erection of further privy accommodation or the substitution of water closets for privies, and the repair of existing defective privies and privy middens.

4 dwelling-houses were closed by the owners voluntarily. No closing order has been asked for. No house has been demolished.

The sanitary administration of the district is carried out by the Medical Officer, the Sanitary Inspector, who is the officer appointed under the Housing and Town Planning Act, and the Veterinary Inspector.

Infectious
Disease.

Scarlet fever has occurred in 5 cases spread over the whole year. No case was removed to the Hospital, all were isolated at home.

One case of Diphtheria and three cases of Erysipelas were notified.

Two cases of Puerperal fever occurred, a midwife having attended at each confinement.

No case of Enteric was notified.

Tuberculosis.

7 cases of Pulmonary tuberculosis have been notified. Two ended fatally. A third case has gone to a Sanatorium. 4 cases of Tubercular disease of other parts of the body have been notified, one is at work regularly. The home conditions in all cases were satisfactory.

The arrangements of the County Council for the treatment of non-insured persons suffering from this disease have been completed. They include 50 beds at Mowsley Sanatorium (18 for insured persons), 22 beds at Hinckley Dispensary (8 for insured persons), and 8 beds at Coalville Dispensary (4 for insured persons).

The two Dispensaries receive out-patients as well, and a Sub-Dispensary is established at Melton-Mowbray, while another has been opened at Loughborough.

Cases from this district are dealt with either at Mowsley Sanatorium or Coalville Dispensary. Tuberculin (out-patient) treatment is carried out by the Tuberculosis Officer only, Tuberculin not being supplied to Medical

Practitioners for use in patients own homes. Shelters are at present provided in suitable cases for insured persons, and when the County Council Scheme is in operation, will be available for dependents and other non-insured cases. There is a Certificated Nurse acting as Health Visitor for this district. All cases are visited by her and a report is received by me in each case from her. Each case is, in addition, visited by me and any insanitary or defective housing conditions reported by me to the Sanitary Inspector.

The Notification of Births is in force.

The compulsory notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum by both Medical men and Midwives came into force on April 1st. The necessary certificates have been supplied for this purpose to those concerned.

I beg to recommend to your particular attention the provision of better closet accommodation for Albert Village, the urgent necessity for ash vaults to privy middens being closed so as to prevent dissemination of dust in dry weather, the erection of W.Cs. for new houses and the substitution of W.Cs. for privy middens.

The scavenging, though less unsatisfactory than in past years, still requires constant and frequent supervision.

In conclusion, I beg to congratulate your Council upon the prompt installation of the new Water Scheme. This will be an immense advantage to the district, which has in certain areas suffered for years from defective supplies.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RODERIC LOGAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

YEAR.	BIRRS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.			NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.		
	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		
		Uncorrected Number.	Number.					of Non-residents not registered in the District.	Number.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909.	3297		91	27.9	4.4	13.3		1	11	120	45	13.6
1910.	3359		85	25.3	2.3	6.8		1	6	70	24	7.0
1911.	2783	73	73	26.2	4.3	15.4	Nil.	1	9	136	44	15.8
1912.	2808	68	68	24.2	1.7	6.05	Nil.	1	5	73	18	6.4
1913.	2829	72	72	25.4	2.9	10.25	Nil.	1	6	83	30	10.51
1914.	2853	75	75	26.63	2.5	8.76	Nil.	1	4	53	26	9.07

CENSUS 1911.

Area of District in acres (land and water) ... 1978.

Number of inhabited houses ... 577.

Comparable Death Rate ... 30.1236.

Total population at all ages ... 2783.

Average number of persons per house ... 4.8.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.		TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District						TOTAL CASES MOVED TO HOS- PITAL.	
	At all Ages	At all Ages	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Under 1	1 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 and upwards			
Small-pox	...	...						
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...									
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	1									
Erysipelas	3									
Scarlet fever	5									
Typhus fever	...									
Enteric fever	...									
Relapsing fever (R)										
Continued fever (C)	2									
Puerperal fever	...									
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis										
Poliomyelitis	...									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis										
Other forms of Tuberculosis										
Totals	...	...	11	1	5		2	3		

Isolation Hospital : Moira Isolation Hospital.

Sanatoria : No Sanatorium.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	1	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.										Total Deaths, whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.		
		ALL AGES		Under 1 year		1 and under 2 years		2 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years		15 and under 25 years		
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
All causes	{ Certified	26	4	1			1	2	1	6	11			
	{ Uncertified	...	...									
1. Enteric Fever												
2. Small Pox												
3. Measles	1	1										
4. Scarlet Fever												
5. Whooping Cough												
6. Diphtheria and Croup												
7. Influenza												
8. Erysipelas												
9. Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	2						1		1					
10. Tuberculous Meningitis	...	1		1										
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	1						1					1		
12. Cancer, malignant disease	...	1												
13. Rheumatic Fever												
14. Meningitis												
15. Organic Heart Disease	...	2										1		
16. Bronchitis	...	4	1				1					1		
17. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	1	1											
18. Other diseases of respiratory organs												
19. Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...													
20. Appendicitis and Typhlitis														
21. Cirrhosis of Liver	...													
21A. Alcoholism	...													
22. Nephritis & Bright's Disease	1											1		
23. Puerperal Fever	...													
24. Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...													
25. Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	1	1											
26. Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	1									1		
27. Suicide												
28. Other Defined Diseases	...	10							1	1	8			
29. Diseases ill-defined or unknown												
Totals	...	26	4	1		1	2	1	6	11				

TABLE IV.
Infant Mortality.

1914. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under
1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All causes { Certified ...	1				1	1			2	4
Uncertified ...										
Small-pox ...	...								
Chicken-pox ...	...								
Measles ...	...								
Scarlet Fever ...	...								
Whooping-Cough ...	...								
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...								
Erysipelas ...	...								
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...								
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...								
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)										
Convulsions ...	...								
Laryngitis ...	...								
Bronchitis ...	...								
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...								
Diarrhoea ...	...								
Enteritis ...	...								
Gastritis ...	...								
Syphilis ...	...								
Rickets ...	...								
Suffocation, overlying										
Injury at birth ...	...								
Atelectasis ...	...								
Congenital Malformations										
Premature birth ...	...	1				1				1
Atrophy, Debility and										
Marasmus ...	...								
Other Causes ...	...								
Totals ...	...	1				1	1		2	4
Nett Births { legitimate 75.										
in the year { illegitimate —.										
Nett Deaths { legitimate infants 4										
in the year of { illegitimate infants —.										

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III. & IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

R. LOGAN.

February 3rd, 1915.

Medical Officer of Health.